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Attorneys for Defendants
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO;
WILLIAM HUGHEN; KEVIN BIRMINGHAM; NATALIA FOSSI
(ERRONEOUSLY SUED AS NATALIA KWAITKOWSKA);
MAURICIO HERNANDEZ; and JOE DUFFY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

PATRICK GALLAGHER,

Case No. 23-cv-03579-SI (JCS)

Plaintiff,

**DECLARATION OF WILLIAM HUGHEN IN
SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR
SUMMARY JUDGMENT (Fed. R. Civ. P. 56)**

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN
FRANCISCO, BERNARD CURRAN,
RODRIGO SANTOS, WILLIAM HUGHEN,
KEVIN BIRMINGHAM, NATALIA
KWAITKOWSKA, AND JOE DUFFY,

Hearing Date: December 5, 2025
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: Videoconference

Trial Date: February 17, 2026

Defendant.

DECLARATION OF WILLIAM HUGHEN

I, William Hughen, declare as follows:

1. I was formerly employed by the San Francisco Planning Department (“Planning”), a department of the City and County of San Francisco (“The City”), as a Planner II in the Current Planning Division, Flex Team. The Flex Team is a catch all team for Planning’s smaller projects, with a focus on unit legalization and Accessory Dwelling Units (“ADU’s”) within the City. I was employed by the Planning Department from December 2019 to October 2022. I have a Bachelor’s Degree in City and Regional Planning from the Ohio State University.

2. I have personal knowledge of the following facts except those stated on information and belief. As to those facts, I believe them to be true. If called upon to testify, I could and would testify competently to the contents of this declaration.

3. The Planning Department, among other duties, is charged with maintaining both the General Plan, policies of the Planning Department and Planning and Historic Preservation Commissions, the Planning Code, and other municipal codes. The Planning Code regulates the location and the use of buildings and land adjacent to streets; sets forth standards for development structures and land in any zoning district; and requires that properties shall be used only for the purposes permitted in that district.

4. The Planning Department works in conjunction with the Department of Building Inspection (“DBI”), which will route permit applications to the Planning Department when the permit applications and drawings reflect a scope of work that would warrant review by the Planning Department. It is important that plans submitted to DBI contain a complete scope of work; otherwise DBI plan checkers are not able to determine whether a permit application needs to be routed to the Planning Department for review.

5. As a member of the Flex Team I would conduct planning, zoning or design review of architectural drawings referred by DBI to the Planning Department that implicated aspects of the Planning Code. While the plans would be referred by DBI to Planning, my review of those plans would not involve any DBI personnel.

1 6. When I was a member of the Flex Team, I was assigned permit application related to a
2 project at 200 Naples St. in San Francisco. The permit application was identified as PA
3 202108096049. I was assigned this project by my then supervisor, Natalia Fossi (formerly
4 Kwiatkowska), on August 26, 2021.

5 7. I reviewed the permit application and the plans submitted by Plaintiff in support of PA
6 202108096049. I first reviewed the permit application itself. The permit application stated that it was
7 “to comply with NOV 202175602: Addition of an ADU and the restoration of existing curb cut (per
8 scope of work on the plans).”

9 8. When I reviewed the plans, Plaintiff included in the “scope of work” a “new ADU and
10 (R) curb cut for (E) Driveway Access.” I did not find any issue with the proposed ADU. However,
11 Plaintiff’s election to include a proposed curb cut and request to park in the rear yard with the ADU
12 application was in conflict with the Planning Code. Specifically, the Planning Code requires the rear
13 year to be open space per Planning Code section 134. Therefore, adding a curb cut at that location is
14 not something that could be allowed at the permit approval process. In this circumstance, a property
15 owner must apply for a variance from the Planning Code. This is why I gave Plaintiff the option to
16 either remove the curb cut and parking request or apply for a variance.

17 9. Per Planning’s internal goals, I provided comments to Plaintiff regarding his
18 application on September 7, 2021. The comments I provided Plaintiff were memorialized in the
19 Planning Department’s Bluebeam on the same day. The comments provided were as follows:

- 20 (a) “Specify required front setback line and required rear yard line on the plans,”
- 21 (b) “Project must meet permeability and landscaping improvement requirements: In the
22 required front yard setback area 20% of the area is required to be landscaped and 50% of the
23 area is required to be permeable. The permeable surface may be inclusive of the area counted
24 towards the landscaping requirement; provided, however, that turf pavers or similar planted
25 hardscapes shall be counted only toward the permeable surface requirement and not the
26 landscape requirement. Indicate the front yard setback area, landscaped area, and permeable
27 surface area calculations on the site plan. Also review the Guide to the San Francisco Green
28 Landscaping Ordinance:

1 http://default.sfplanning.org/publications_reports/Guide_to_SF_Green_Landscaping_Ordinance.pdf

2

3 (c) “Specify required front setback line and required rear yard line on the plans”,

4 (d) “In scope of work specify ADU will be added per Government Code Section
5 65852.2,”

6 (e) “Automobile parking is not permitted in the required rear yard area or within
7 required open space areas unless the applicant files and obtains a variance,”

8 (f) “Curb cut policy: project must meet Planning's Curb Cut policies, summarized in
9 ZA Bulletin 2:

10 https://sfplanning.org/sites/default/files/documents/publications/ZAB_02_Curb_Cuts.pdf.”

11 Additional review of the proposed curb will be completed and additional comments may be
12 issued regarding the curb cut,

13 (g) “Provide ADU square footage (just the unit) on the floor plan,” 8) “Clarify
14 excavation quantities and specify on the planset. If no excavation is proposed specify this on
15 the planset,”

16 (h) “Provide common laundry facilities or provide private laundry facilities for each
17 unit. Laundry must be in a location that can be accessed by both units if proposing common
18 laundry”,

19 (i) “Clarify window location of ADU that faces Avalon Blvd. This is shown in different
20 locations in the floor plan and elevation,”

21 (j) “Specify new path of travel for main existing unit's access to rear yard open space
22 area,” and

23 (k) “This appears to not be a solid wall based on streetview. Please clarify and show as
24 it exists (with gates, if existing).”

25 10. In the Bluebeam system I identified specifically where on the plans the comments
26 applied. A true and accurate copy of the comments I had on the plans submitted in support of PA
27 202108096049 are attached hereto as Exhibit A. The comments I made are in orange.

1 11. Plaintiff elected to file a variance instead of removing the request for parking, which he
2 did on November 9, 2021. Plaintiff's variance request was identified as 2021-011391PRJ. The
3 variance sought was "to establish two off-street parking spaces in the rear yard, accessed from Naples
4 Street." Plaintiff's ADU permit was placed on hold pending the variance hearing as it was part of the
5 same permit application seeking the disputed parking.

6 12. I was not involved in any way in Plaintiff's variance request for the rear parking.
7 Specifically, I was not involved in any way in scheduling any variance hearings or subsequent appeals
8 hearings.

9 13. The variance request was denied by Planning on July 27, 2022.

10 14. Plaintiff then appealed the variance decision. The Board of Appeals denied Plaintiff's
11 appeal on August 30, 2022.

12 15. After the variance and appeal was denied, I had no further involvement with this
13 project.

14 16. DBI and Planning are different departments within the City. While there is general
15 overlap between the two departments, I never worked with anyone within DBI when reviewing or
16 approving plans.

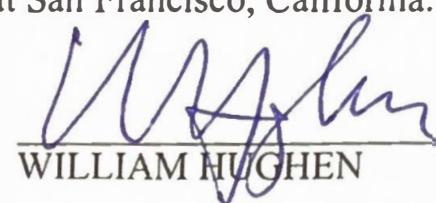
17 17. I did not work from anyone at DBI on the issues I described above. Specifically, I did
18 not work with DBI employee Joe Duffy in any meaningful capacity with the issues described above.
19 Joe Duffy was never my supervisor. Joe Duffy never directed or instructed me to make any specific
20 decisions related to my work on the project at 200 Naples St.

21 18. I have never worked with Defendant Bernie Curran in any capacity. I never worked
22 with or discussed my work at the Property with Defendant Curran. I have never socialized with
23 Curran. I only learned that Plaintiff allegedly spoke with the FBI because Plaintiff told me. The fact
24 that Plaintiff told me that he spoke with the FBI did not affect my review of Plaintiff's application in
25 any way, nor did it cause me to act differently with respect to Plaintiff's ADU application.

26 19. I did not work with Rodrigo Santos nor anyone from his firm Santos & Urrutia on the
27 issues I described above related to 200 Naples St. I did not know that Santos had any connection to
28 this project until I was made aware of this lawsuit.

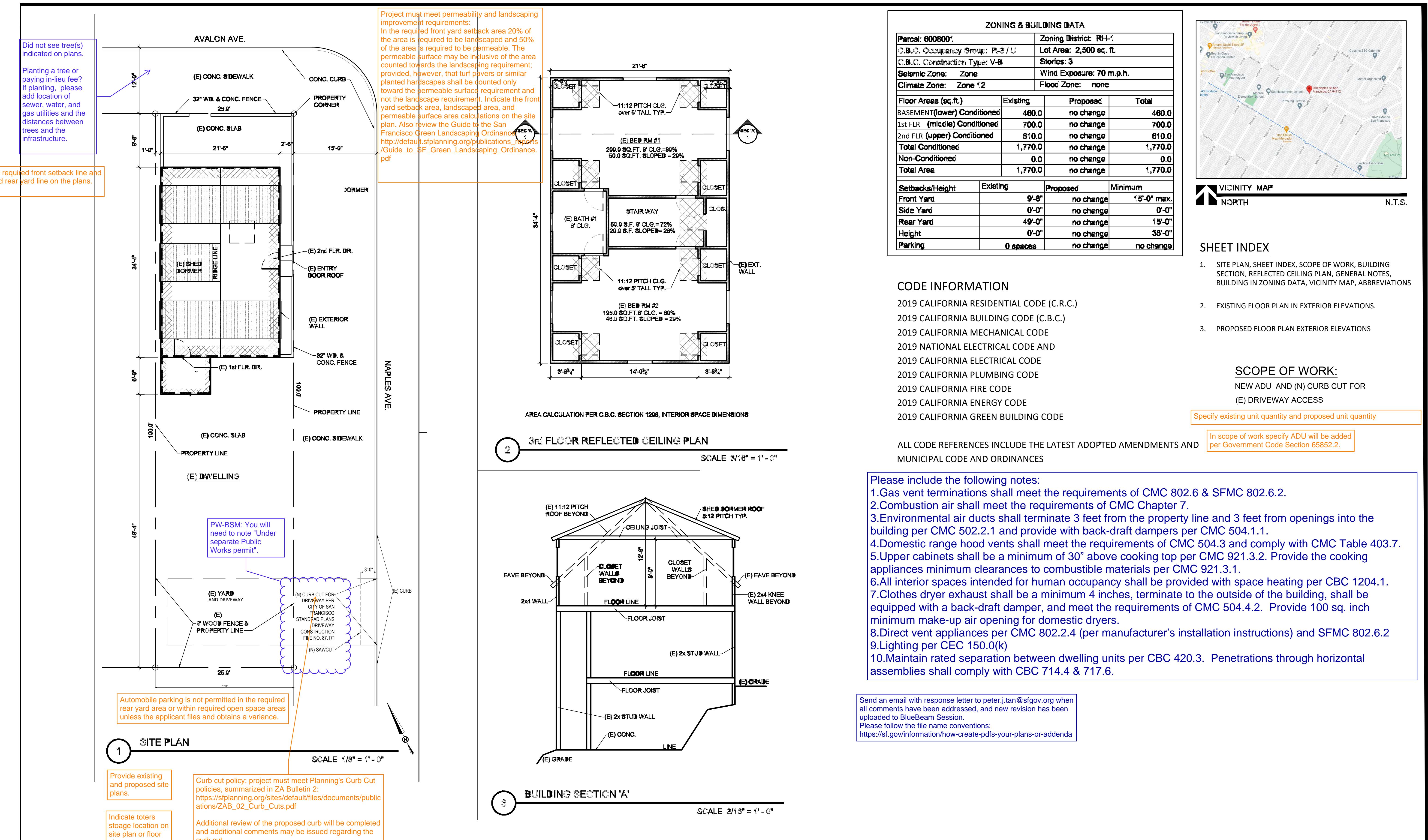
1
2 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true
3 and correct.
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5 Executed this 3rd day of ~~October~~ November 2025, at San Francisco, California.
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WILLIAM HUGHEN

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Exhibit A



SUPERSEDED

DESIGN COLLABORATIVE
ARCHITECTURAL/CIVIL DESIGN & DRAFTING SERVICES
John Neal
808 Yamada Way
Suisun City CA 94585
707-470-6130
jneal_dc@comcast.net
John R Neal

PAT GALLAGHER
NEW ADU
200 NAPLES ST. SAN FRANCISCO CA 94112
PH: 925-325-3911

NEW ADU - SITE PLAN,
BUILDING DATA, SHEET INDEX,

CHECKED BY Checker
DRAWN BY Jneal
SCALE AS SHOWN
DATE 07.27.21
PROJECT NO. 21023-A
PHASE NO.
SHEET NO. 1 of 3

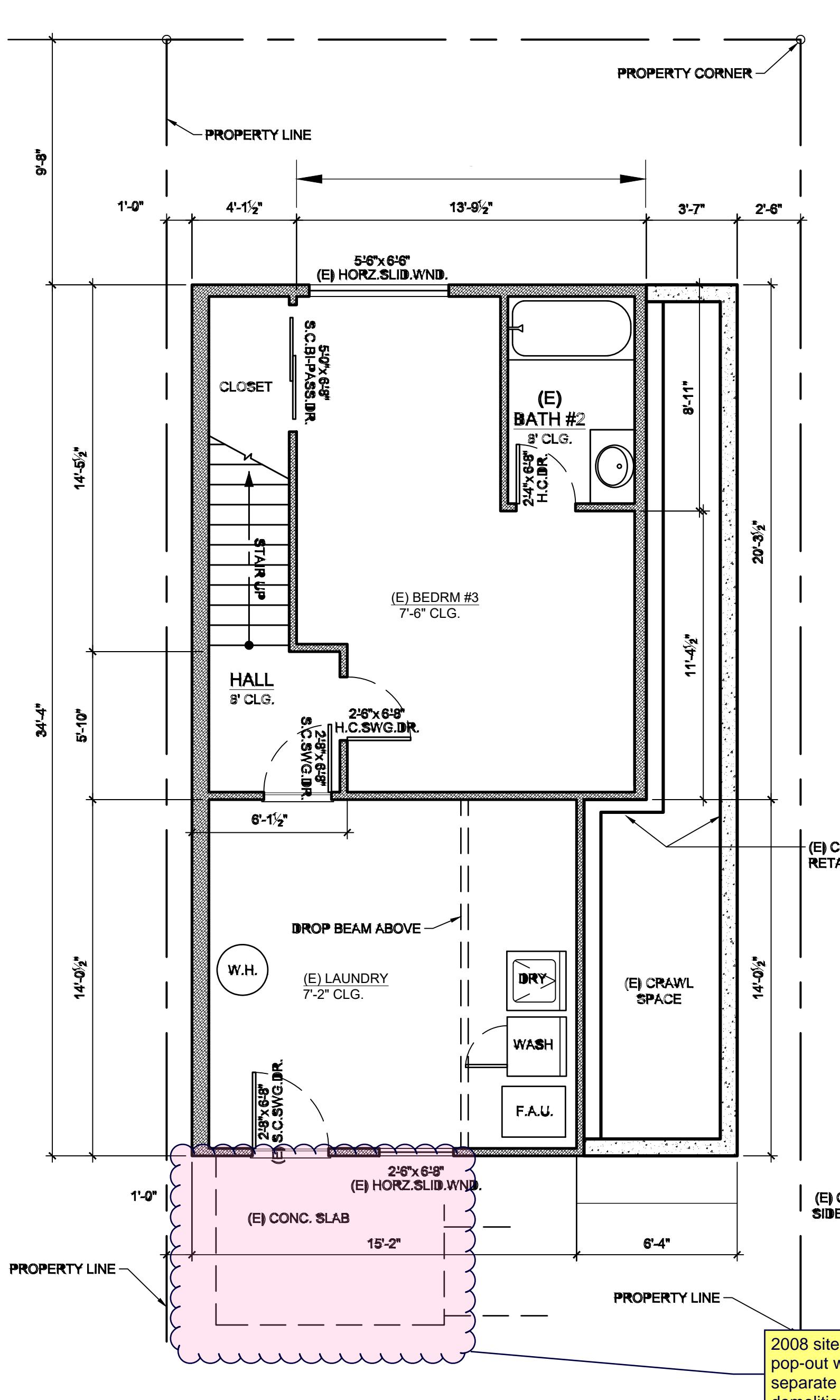
**DESIGN
COLLABORATIVE**

ARCHITECTURAL /CIVIL DESIGN & DRAFTING SERVICES

John Neal
808 Yosemite Way
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jneal_dc@comcast.net

John R. Neal

**PAT GALLAGHER
ADDITION &
RENOVATION
200 NAPLES ST. SAN
FRANCISCO CA 94111
PH: 925-325-3911**



EXISTING 1st FLOOR PLAN (LOWER)

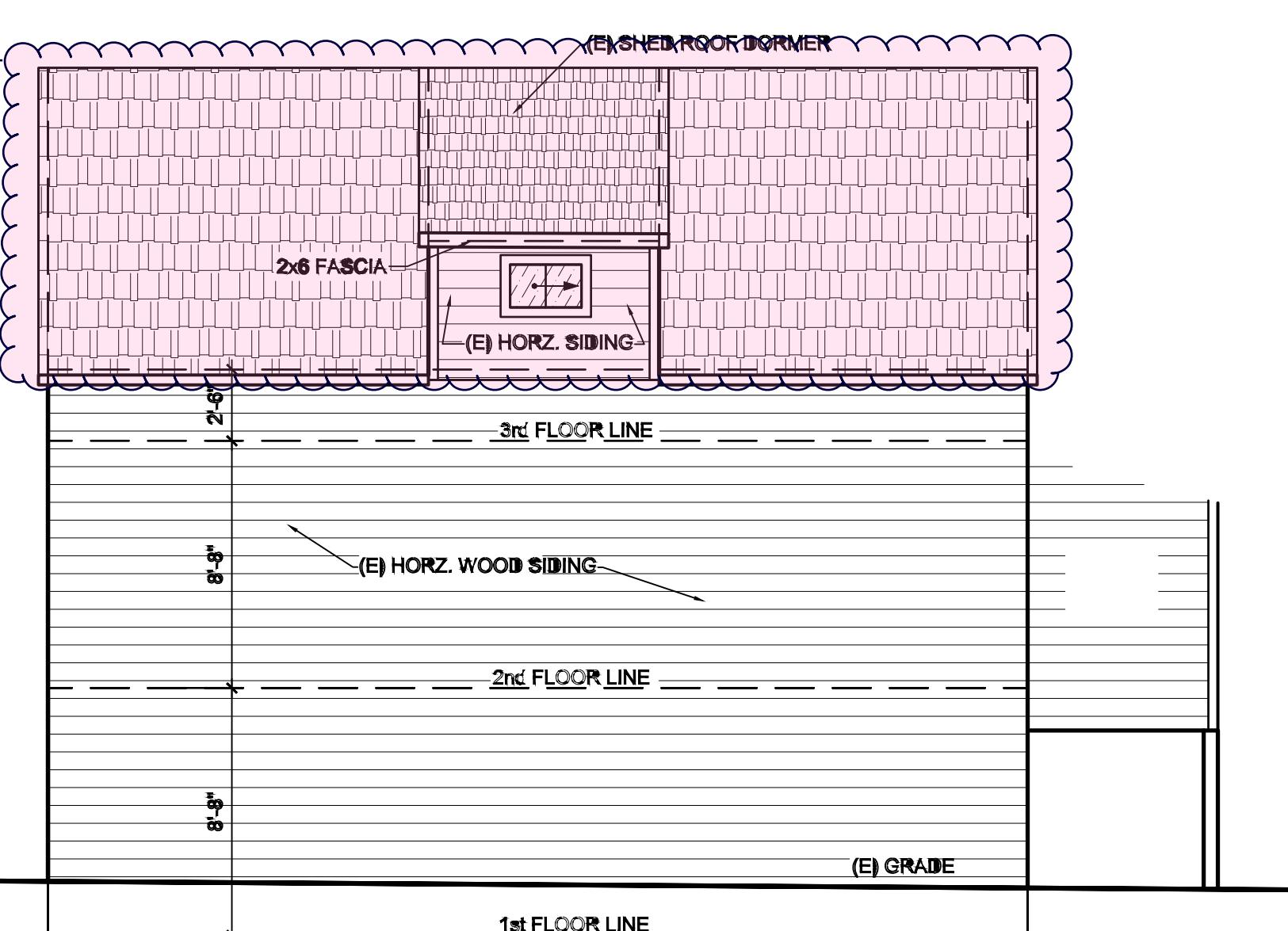
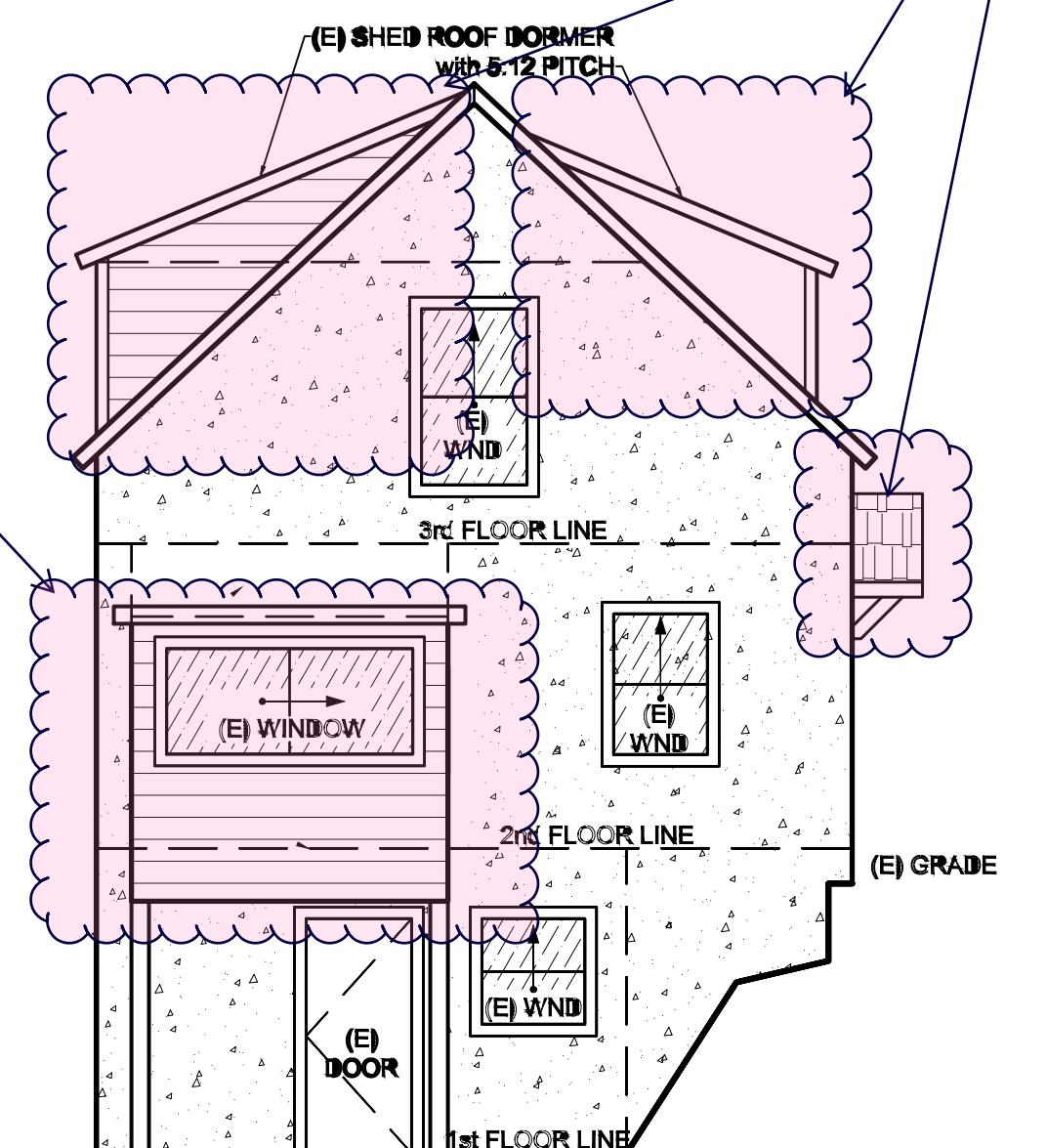
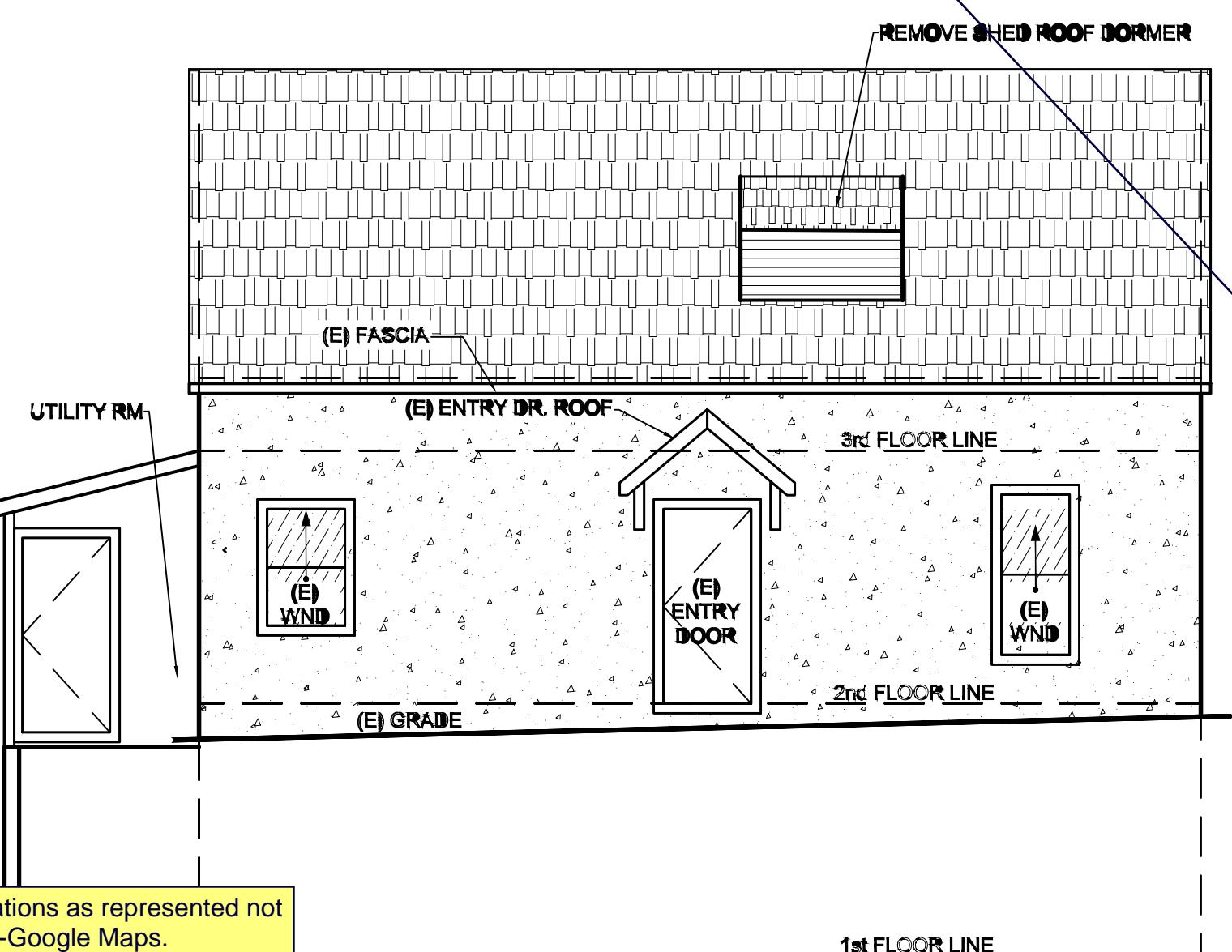
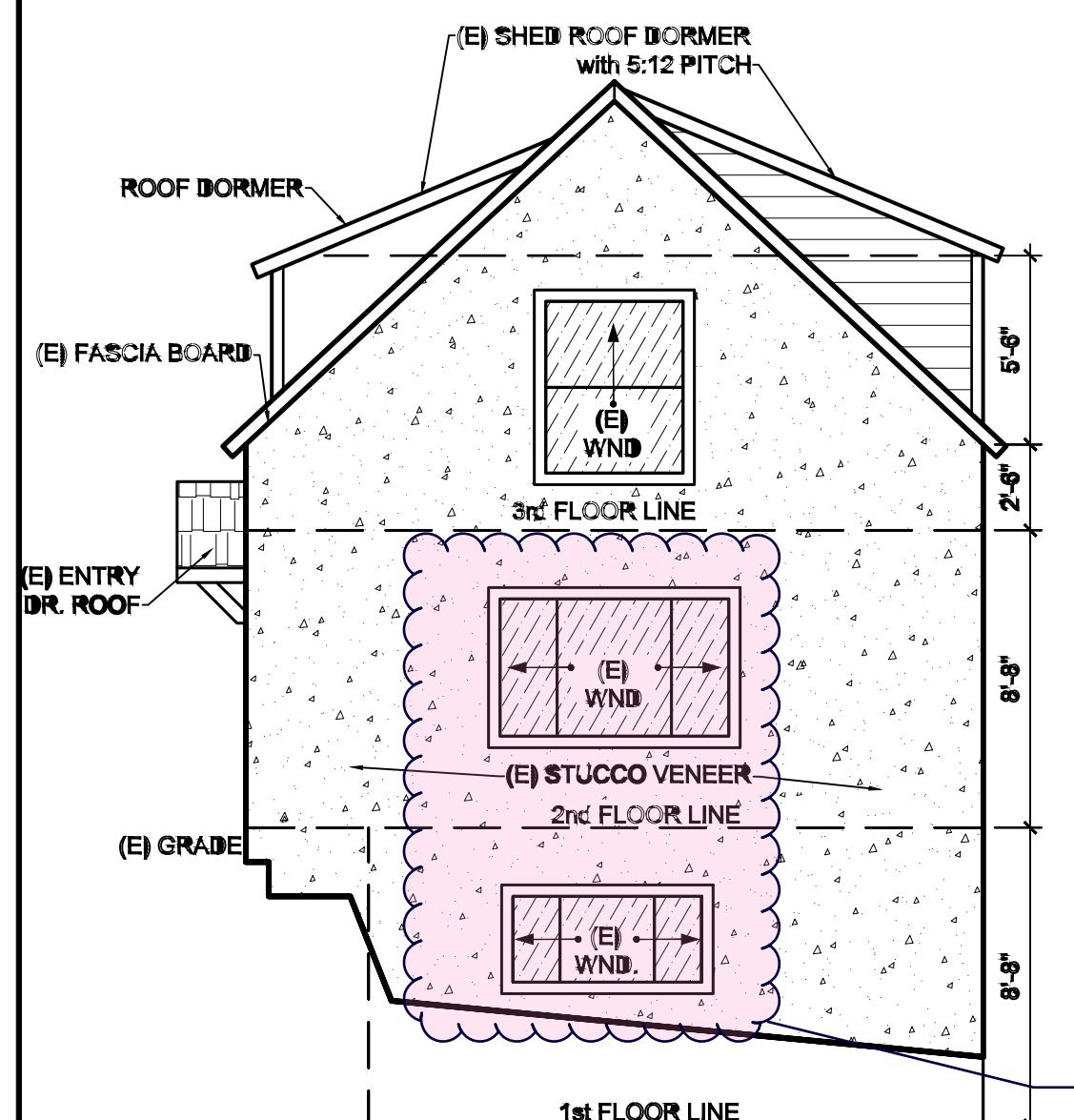
SCALE 1/4" = 1' - 0"

EXISTING 2nd FLOOR PLAN (MIDDLE)

SCALE 1/4" = 1' - 0"

EXISTING 3rd FLOOR PLAN (UPPER)

SCALE 1/4" = 1' - 0"



EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS:

SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0"

CHECKED BY
Checker

DRAWN BY
Jheal

SCALE AS SHOWN

DATE 07.27.21

PROJECT NO.
21023-A

PHASE NO.

SHEET NO.

DESIGN
COLLABORATIVEARCHITECTURAL / CIVIL DESIGN &
DRAFTING SERVICESJohn Neal
808 Yerolem Way
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707-470-6130
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John R Neal

No.	Description	Date

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